

MINUTES
HOUSE HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 08, 2022
TIME: 8:30 am - Note Earlier Time
PLACE: Room EW20
MEMBERS: Chairman Wood, Vice Chairman Vander Woude, Representatives Gibbs, Blanksma, Kingsley, Christensen, Lickley, Erickson, Ferch, Mitchell, Chew, Rubel, Burns
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative Kingsley
GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of the session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

S 1270: **Rep. John Weber**, District 34, presented **S 1270**, the Down Syndrome Diagnosis Information Act. The goal of this legislation is to provide timely, accurate and complete information to parents receiving a Down syndrome diagnosis. The Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) will prepare an informative report sheet to be provided to parents when a diagnosis or likelihood is determined.

MOTION: **Rep. Gibbs** made a motion to send **S 1270** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Robert Cochems, Idaho Down Syndrome Council, Treasure Valley Down Syndrome Association, testified **in support** of **S 1270**. He shared the diagnosis for his son, the lack of information they were provided, and the emotional result of having no help from medical staff or knowledge of any support groups.

Baylee Auger, Boise State Student, testified **in support** of **S 1270**. Health care professionals need to provide information to parents so people with Down syndrome are treated as valuable citizens. She shared her appreciation for the support she's been given by her parents and the Treasure Valley Down Syndrome Association.

Richelle Tierney, Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, testified **in support** of **S 1270**. Accurate information at the time of a diagnosis provides fact-based decisions assisted by a connection to services and supports. This creates a more positive image to help people with disabilities be recognized as valuable citizens.

Reps. Vander Woude and **Lickley** shared how their relatives with Down syndrome impact their families in loving and positive ways. They both agreed with the need for more information to help everyone understand how capable these individuals are and how they greatly improve our citizenry.

VOTE ON MOTION: **Chairman Wood** called for a vote on the motion to send **S 1270** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote. Rep. Weber** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

S 1266: **Kelli Brassfield**, Idaho Association of Counties, on behalf of 44 Idaho Coroners, presented **S 1266**. The changes in this legislation address the increase in case loads and difficulty with identifications. The county public administrator and county treasurer notifications required within 48 hours are increased to 72 hours. Because applications for indigent burial or cremation can take 35 to 45 days for processing, stipulation is made to allow cremation ten days following death.

- MOTION:** **Rep. Lickley** made a motion to send **S 1266** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Kingsley** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- Chairman Wood** turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Vander Woude.**
- RS 29778:** **Rep. Fred Wood**, District 27, presented **RS 29778**, a Concurrent Resolution for fee rules reviewed by the House and Senate Health and Welfare Committees for the DHW and 24 of the 49 boards and commissions of the Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses (DOPL). The specific DOPL rules the committees reviewed are not stipulated because this year all of the DOPL rules were presented in one rules book and sent to the Business Committee. The Concurrent Resolution for the Business Committee will reflect all of the DOPL rules.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to introduce **RS 29778** and recommend it be sent directly to the Second Reading Calendar. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Wood** will sponsor the bill on the floor,
- Vice Chairman Vander Woude** turned the gavel over to **Chairman Wood.**
- S 1283:** **Rep. John Vander Woude**, District 22, presented **S 1283**. Medicaid pays only 25% of the costs for ground Emergency Medical Transportation (EMT). This legislation stipulates who is eligible and the calculation for a supplemental Medicaid reimbursement.
- Travis Myklebust**, Fire Chief, Lewiston, Fire Chief Association, Volunteer EMT, testified **in support** of **S 1283**. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are struggling and many are conducting fund raisers to run their operations. This funding can be used to address recruitment, retention, training new providers, and updating equipment. The costs of supplies and equipment have increased by 200% in the past two years. With agencies facing barriers to recoup their costs, this bill provides a needed financial mechanism. Answering a question, he said each agency would pay a small percentage of their collection to fund the full time employee.
- Rob Shoplock**, President, Professional Firefighters of Idaho, testified **in support** of **S 1283**. This legislation will provide a way to get better equipment for community services.
- MOTION:** **Rep. Blanksma** made a motion to send **S 1283** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.
- Garrett Abrahamson**, Prehospital Guidelines Consortium (PGC), testified **in support** of **S 1283**. The need for Idaho is great and similar programs are addressing this issue in other states.
- ROLL CALL VOTE:** Roll call vote was requested. **Motion carried by a vote of 12 AYE, 1 Absent/Excused.** **Voting in favor** of the motion: **Reps. Wood, Vander Woude, Gibbs, Blanksma, Christensen, Lickley, Erickson, Ferch, Mitchell, Chew, Rubel, Burns.** **Rep. Kingsley** was absent/excused. **Rep. Vander Woude** will sponsor the bill on the floor.
- ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Representative Wood
Chair

Irene Moore
Secretary